

Andrew Jackson to Willie Blount, July 3, 1812, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO WILLIE BLOUNT.1

1 Draft.

Nashville, July 3, 1812

D'r Sir . On the 29th ultimo, Mr E. Hammond set out for Newport Kentuckey, with instructions, and determination to be here at as early a day as possible. I hope he will be at Nashville on the 20th Instant, with the arms and Equipments, doubts has been suggested here, of there being the quantity of arms at Newport, and it has been stated, that what are there, is not fit for use. this has reached me since Mr. H. started. let this be as it may, I have directed Mr Hammond to receive good arms, and I have requested the agent to send none but such as are fit for immediate use. I am really fearfull that we will be disappointed, in the receipt. of them.

I have had my eye to the recpt. of those arms, to commence my movements against the Creek Nation—on the event that the captive,² together with the captors are not deturred to the united States, which I do not expect. The safety of our whole frontier requires, a speedy stroke against the Creeks, and with or without orders, the present spirit of the citizens require, an immediate movement to be made. Nay I may say the safety of our Frontier, and that a speedy end may be put to indian hosti[li]ty imperiously demand it. I shall wait no longer than the 20th. or 25th. instant. With such arms and supplies as I can obtain I shall penetrate the creek Towns, untill the Captive, with her Captors are delivered up, and think myself Justifiable, in laying waste their villiages, burning their houses,

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killing their warriors and leading into Captivity their wives and children, untill I do obtain a surrender of the Captive, and the Captors. I find a great scarcity of amunition here it will be dificult to obtain a supply. Should I be disappointed in the musquetts from Newport, it will be a serious, injury and inconvenience in the contemplated scurging of the creeks. I am Just (verbally) advised that Capt Masons spies five in Number, fell in with four indians believed to be Shaonese,³ and killed one and wounded two, so soon as I receive Capt Masons report, will advise you thereof. I shall thank you for any advice you have recd. from the war department on the subject of the Depredation of the creeks.

2 Mrs. Martha Crowley.

3 Shawanees.

By next mail I shall write Colo. Thos. P. Carnis of Georgia asking his cooperation with me, with a body of men from Georgia to make an attack upon the South Eastern tribes of the Creeks at the same time I make the stroke on the north western a combined movement and sudden blow will give us eternal peace with the southern tribes. . . .